



Climate change: The importance of place

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Abstract:

Climate change-related risks are place-specific and path-dependent. Accordingly, location is an important determinant of hazardous exposure, and certain places will bear more risk than others. This article reviews the major environmental exposures associated with risky places in the U.S., including coastal regions, islands, the desert Southwest, vectorborne and zoonotic disease border regions, cities, and the U.S. Arctic (Alaska), with emphasis on exposures and vulnerable populations of concern. In addition to these hotspots, this study considers the ways in which the concept of place--the sense of human relationship with particular environments--will play a key role in motivating, developing, and deploying an effective public health response. In considering the importance of place, we highlight the concepts of community resilience and risk management, key aspects of a robust response to climate change in public health and other sectors.

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Resource Description

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event, Sea Level Rise

Extreme Weather Event: Hurricanes/Cyclones

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Arctic, Desert, Ocean/Coastal, Urban

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

United States

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease

Infectious Disease: Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Vectorborne Disease, Zoonotic Disease

Foodborne/Waterborne Disease: General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

Vectorborne Disease: General Vectorborne

Zoonotic Disease: General Zoonotic Disease

Medical Community Engagement: 

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation: 

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Resource Type: 

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

Resilience: 

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale: 

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified